

Parish Council Minutes – March 30, 2020

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M. In attendance on Zoom: Bruce Weaver, Rev. Nancy Rottman, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Scott DeSantis, Jill DiGiorgio, Lisa Gerbick, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Jim Marshall, AnnMarie Pendola, and Larainne Wilson. Debbie offered the meditation. Minutes from 3/2/2020 were approved with unanimous consent.

Pastor Report: Rev. Nancy Rottman reported that her main foci points have been on Congregational Care and Worship. The Care list has been distributed. Nancy has also reviewed the recommendations from the Mass Council of Churches regarding funerals in the COVID-19 era. We have had 3 recorded worship services that are available on YouTube. The Church has accounts with Zoom for virtual meeting, and OneLicense for podcasting and streaming music, and Rev. Nancy has an account with WeVideo for video editing and production. In addition to virtual worship services, Nancy has hosted virtual Coffee Hour on Zoom. Susan and Barbara are working on refining the church email list and contact information so that church communications are received by everyone.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Jeff Law reviewed with Council the potential financial impact presented with the current pandemic. Council and the TDS Board of Directors are monitoring the ever-changing situation, ready to make decisions in the best interest of the church.

Education: Larainne Wilson reported on the Faith Formation activities including working with Rev Nancy and Doug on Holy Week offerings. Jill is considering a mid-week Zoom offering for parents. Middle School Youth Group is on hold for now and will consider doing some sort of celebratory ending in May. The Autism Awareness event has been postponed until April 10, 2021. Children's Sunday remains scheduled for June 7. The next FFMT meeting is April 14.

Outreach: Linda Ladd reported on the activities of Outreach Ministries, including volunteering at Haven for Hunger on March 23. Haven from Hunger has stopped taking food donations from churches. The next volunteer day will be April 27. A Lenten movie series focusing on Creation Care happened on the first 2 Wednesdays of Lent and included a soup supper, movie and discussion. There is a weekly book group planned for 4/19 – 5/31 on "Cathedral on Fire: Climate Crisis Handbook for Churches."

Diaconate: AnnMarie Pendola reported that the deacons have been helping contact those on the Congregational Care List. The deacons last met on March 1 to discuss emergency buttons, ushering schedule, and updates on the audio system. The next scheduled meeting is May 3.

Stewardship: Debbie Cotting reported that she sent out Thank You notes for pledges. Due to these uncertain times, we will hold off on sending reminders to those with outstanding pledges.

Finance: Chuck Cotting reported on the various maintenance projects. The building closed on March 17. Moving forward Bruce, Chuck, and Scott will handle Lights Out for the duration of the closure. Chuck worked with Jose to start a complete cleaning of all bathrooms and surfaces. Scott and Chuck arranged with NEIC to do a complete Deep

Cleaning of the church, which was started on March 18 and completed on March 23. On March 27, Scott and Rev Nancy installed candle lights in the windows in remembrance of all those who have passed away from COVID-19. All capital projects and the insurance evaluations are on hold.

Fundraising: There are two fundraisers planned for May and June. The Flea Market and Bake Sale is planned for Saturday, May 30 and the Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, June 12.

Old/New Business: Chuck reported that the new church computer is in and will be set up. Bruce is working with Dom to get an itemized list for the new sound equipment.

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Monday, April 27, 2020 @ 7pm

Meditation – Katherine Decker